



# 2013 Deer Trustee Report

## Public Action Team Implementation Proposal

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Action Team: <b>Science/Research</b>	Population Management <b>A.1.</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Draft <input type="checkbox"/> Submitted	Deer Trustee Report Page 23-24

This document shows the original Deer Trustee Report recommendation that the Public Action Team considered when developing proposals for implementing the recommendation in Wisconsin. The Public Action Team's implementation proposal is then presented followed by a brief summary by the WDNR.

### **I. ORIGINAL DEER TRUSTEE REPORT RECOMMENDATION**

**A.1. Limit the use of SAK/accounting style models to monitoring deer population size and trends at the state and regional levels. We agree with the 2006 SAK Audit Report that estimates at the state level likely reflect actual conditions, and this is the scale at which most other states that use similar models report estimates of population size. With increased sample sizes of deer bio-checked by DMAP cooperators, precision of estimates at the regional level may be appropriate for setting policy and monitoring trends at that level. Statistical estimates such as those from aerial surveys in the CWD management zone should be used for estimates at the DMU or finer scale as appropriate. Unfortunately, we cannot recommend alternative population estimating procedures that are less susceptible to assumption violations or sample size requirements at the DMU level.**

### **II. PUBLIC ACTION TEAM PROPOSAL FOR IMPLEMENTING THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATION**

Below is the Public Action Team implementation proposal along with their rationale and supporting evidence, potential implementation obstacles and consideration of the proposal's potential impact on the overall deer management in Wisconsin.

#### 1. Action Team Implementation Proposal:

- The team rejected the recommendation as written.
- The team recommended:
  - Use SAK at the level that is appropriate for management (DMU level) and scientific inference.
  - Target efforts towards DMU's with less certainty/more controversy in population estimates.
  - Find a way to rigorously examine and incorporate local knowledge into deer estimation.
  - Keep collecting registration and harvest age-data during the firearm deer season.

#### 2. Supporting data, references, rationale and other information behind it.

- State and regional SAK estimates don't help manage the herd because they are not linked to management decisions.
- Ongoing research will improve the SAK.

#### 3. Consider and describe potential implementation obstacles or drawbacks.

- This recommendation may be controversial with some of the public and some policy makers.

#### 4. Overall, how will this proposal simplify or complicate deer hunting, management, or research in Wisconsin.

- May require increased cooperation by hunters in the research.